

THE LIBRARY.

MORE PETITIONS TO ARCHBISHOP LAUD.

I. THE MAKERS OF EMBROIDERED BINDINGS.

IN his excellent book on 'English Embroidered Bindings' Mr. Cyril Davenport wrote 'there is often much speculation as to who can have worked the English embroidered books,' and proceeded to describe one, on a Psalter of 1633, which is known to have been done by Elizabeth, wife of Matthew Wren, Bishop of Ely. No doubt a considerable number of these embroidered covers were the work of amateur needle-women; but there is a family likeness about them—we even find instances of the same design appearing on covers of different sizes—and this, with their undeniable garishness, suggests shop-work. Before Mr. Davenport's book appeared our antiquarian booksellers had decided, on the strength of a misinterpretation of a note in Fuller's 'Worthies,' that embroidered bindings were mostly the work of the Sisters of Little Gidding, whose needles, Fuller tells us 'were employed in learned and pious work to binde Bibles.' Mr. Davenport gave good reasons for believing that this merely refers to the ordinary sewing of the

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leaves of the books upon the bands of the back, which is done with needle and thread. In any case he proved decisively that there is nothing to connect the small embroidered Psalters and Prayerbooks with the Little Gidding Sisters, whose authentic bindings of leather or velvet are all found on large books and show technical shortcomings from which the embroidered books are free.

Mr. Davenport having destroyed the booksellers' legend (though like all booksellers' legends it frequently reappears) our English embroidery bindings of the second quarter of the seventeenth century have been left authorless. One of the petitions to Archbishop Laud in the Tanner manuscript at the Bodleian, from which I quoted other documents in my previous article, seems to enable us to assign them with some confidence to the Milliners who carried on business in the Royal Exchange, and the 'Imbroderers,' working in their own homes, whom they employed. In their petition they state that they employed many such 'Imbroderers' who among other things which they made for the petitioners, had for many years past been accustomed to bring to the petitioners' shops 'rare and curious covers of Imbrothery and needle worke' in which the petitioners had caused Bibles, Testaments and Psalm books' of the best sort and neatest print to be richly bound up for the nobility and gentry, 'for whome and not for common persons' they were most fit. They further point out that they always bought these books of the Company of Stationers, so that they might be sure to have the most correct and lawful copies.

The new decree of Star Chamber had made it punishable for any one but stationers to sell such books, and this, they pointed out, would be a great hardship on the embroiderers as well as on themselves, there being no other place in London so fit for the sale of such books as the Royal Exchange, which was the daily resort of the nobility and gentry from all parts of the kingdom, besides which the ordinary bookseller never sold books so bound.

The petition was signed with ten names, and, as will be seen by his note, Archbishop Laud was sympathetically inclined towards it. Here is the text:

To the most reuerend Father in God the Ld. Archbp of
Canterburie his Grace &c.—The humble petition of
those whose names are subscribed being Milliners &
keeping shopps in the Royall Exchange in London.

Sheweth, That y^e petitioners doe set on worke many Imbroderers and other poore freemen of London, who among other wares and workes, which they make for the petitioners have for many yeares past as well of their owne accord as by the petitioners bespeaking been accustomed to bring to the petitioners shopps rare and curious couers of Imbrothery and needleworke, wherein the petitioners haue used to cause Bibles, Testaments & Psalme Bookes of the best sort and neatest print to be richly bound up for y^e Nobility and gentry of this kingdome, for whome and not for common persons, they are indeed most fitt, which bookes they allwayes bought of the Company of Stationers because the[y] would be sure to haue none but such as should be lawfull and warrantable; May it please your Grace there is upon some iust groundes a late decree in Starr chamber for suppressing the selling of any bookes but by the Stationers, and the Petitioners not selling any other but the Bibles, Testaments & Psalms

soe bound as aforesayd are pretended to be included therin and are warned by one Mr. Spencer, one of your Grace's officers, to answere the matter in the High Commission Court.

Now that many poore are set on worke by the petitioners and doe get a good part of theyr liuing by making the sayd couers and that there is no place so fitt to sell any such bookes as the exchange in regard of the constant and dayly recourse of the Nobility and gentry thither from all parts of this kingdome and of Strangers also from forraigne partes, & that the Booksellers haue neuer used to sell any of the sayd bookes so bound. And that the petitioners doe not know or can perceiue wherin eyther they haue heretofore offended, or for y^e tyme to come can be prejudiciall by continuing theyr accustomed sale of the said Bookes so bound being ready to enter bond as your Grace shall order not to vent any other.

Therefore the petitioners most humbly pray that by your Graces meanes & fauor they may continue theyr trading in the sayd rich bound bookes.

And (as bound) they shall ever pray &c.

[signed]	John Brooke	With Chroturnn (?)
	Thomas Clowes	John Smith
	John Wyne	Henry Sheales
	Henry Saltern	Thomas Jonson
	Jno. Oacks	Percivall Pitt (?)

I desire S^r John Lambe to peruse this Peticon and informe himselfe of the truth of y^e Suggestions and give me an Accompt y^t such further order may be taken as shall be fitting.

Oct. 6. 1638.

[signed] W. CANT:¹

I think it can hardly be doubted that here the origin of these little embroidered Psalters and Prayerbooks is at last disclosed.

¹ Tanner MS. 67 (33).

II. CUTTING THE PRICE IN A GREEK BOOK.

IN another petition is a further reference to the attempt made to issue Greek books from the King's printing house, with which Haviland was connected. In this instance the 'Booksellers for the Latin trade in London' pointed out to 'his Grace' that a certain stranger named Vlack, who had previously been questioned for importing and vending unlawful books, had at the instigation of Robert Barker and Martin Lucas, offered a certain Greek book, the title of which is not stated, at a lower figure than that which the petitioners were asking for it, namely 16s. a reame, and this they pointed out was 6d. a reame cheaper than the price which Sir John Lambe had proposed. Vlack did this, they maintain, in order that under pretence of carrying and selling the book abroad, he might evade the Star Chamber decree, and export other books. In conclusion they prayed his Grace's protection that they might not be 'prejudiced' by the intrusion of strangers and foreigners in their profession and livelihood.

Laud was again sympathetic, as his endorsement shows :

To the most Reverend Father in God the Lord Archbp of Canterburie his Grace Primat of all England and Metropoliton.—The humble petition of the Booke sellers for the Latine trade in London.

Sheweth, That they with all due thanckfulnes acknowledging your Graces continued intentions and endeavours for the good of their profession and societie, doe herein professe their hartly sorrowe that some informations have arrived with your Grace touching the buying and venting of the Greeke booke of which yf they had bin soe happy

as to have had seasonable notice, they should have bin well able to encounter them and given satisfaction to your Grace. For in truth the price being proposed by Sr John Lambe at 16^s 6^d a reame, the petitioners (although knowing that your Grace had intimated that the printers thereof should not in regard of their formerly imposed and respited fyne, expect to be gainers in that particular) did not withstanding really offer them 16^s a reame and submitted to Sir John Lambes order to gyve more yf he thought fitt.

Nevertheles one Vlack a stranger heretofore questioned for importing and venting unlawfull books, and who vpon resentment of his exclusion by the late Decree of Star chamber had proffered to give £200 to have licence to trade in books but 3 yeares longer, was found out by the said printers and purposely brought to vie with and outbid the peticōners in the said price, which he might and did the rather doe, for that vnder pretence of carryeing and venting the said book beyond seas, he might have fitt meanes and opportunitie to colour and palleate his other sinister and more advantagious designes of exportation as was then alledged and hath synce bin evidenced.

The peticōners present themselves humble and earnest suitors vnto your Grace that they may soe enioy the benefitt of the said decree which your Grace first moved and intended for their good, that they may not be thus preiudiced and disammated by intrusion of strangers and forreigners in their profession and liuelyhood. Tendring themselves alwayes ready to take of the said preses (?) from the foresayd printers, which they complayned of as a burden and vpon their deliverie of the materialls to gyve good bond to his Ma^{tie} or your Grace, for the due and effectuall discharge thereof. Or otherwise to be wholly regulated and concluded for the prices of the said book p Reame by your Grace sole order and moderation in that behalfe.

And shall ever pray for your Grace.

Considering Vlakes. offence, and ye danger y^t may followe, and y^e offer made by these Petitioners, I desire S^r John Lambe to take these suggestions into his consideration and give me an Accompt what he conceyues fitt to be done, y^t thereupon I may give further directions.

Nouemb. 28. 1638.

[signed] W. CANT.¹

III. BOOKSELLING BY EXETER IRONMONGERS.

WE may note next the complaint of 'Thos. Spencer,' presumably the bookseller of that name found in London in 1635-6. He begins by quoting the 20th Article of the Star Chamber decree which directed that 'No Haberdasher of small wares, Ironmonger, Chandler, Shopkeeper, or any other person, who had not served a seven years apprenticeship, should deal in books, either in the City or Suburbs of London or in any other Corporation, Markett Town, etc.,' and then proceeds with an indictment:

But soe it is that one Peter Southwood of Exeter Ironmonger, Peter Parkman de ead. Ironmonger. William Turnpenny de ead. Ironmonger, Thom: Wyath de ead. Haberdasher, George Langworthy de ead Ironmonger, doe in contempt of the Decree sell divers sorts of bookes being divers times admonished by Five lawfull Booke-sellers in the sayd City to the Contrary, vid.

Joh: Mongwell Senior.

Joh: Mongwell Junior.

M^r Dight Senior.

M^r Dight Junior.

M^r Hunt.

My desire is that your w[orshi]p would be pleased to moove his Grace that I may be furnished with Letters

¹ Tanner 67. 49.

missive that the 5 Delinquents as abouesayd may answer to theyr severall contempts according to Justice.

[signed] THO : SPENCER.

There is no date to this petition which is mainly interesting as giving us the names of three Exeter booksellers of whom nothing else is known. The Dights were, no doubt John and his son Edward noted in the Dictionary of Printers and Booksellers 1557-1640, and Mr. Hunt may have been Christopher Hunt, but was more probably his son Thomas Hunt. John Mongwell senior and John Mongwell junior, do not seem to be otherwise known.

The association of Ironmongers with bookselling was a new departure, and it would have been interesting to know what class of literature they dealt in. Had it been twenty or thirty years later, books and pamphlets issued by the Quakers, might have been hazarded, but it is much too early for that, and we can only wish that Thos. Spencer had been a little more communicative.

IV. A SEIZURE OF BOOKS.

My last document gives a lively picture of a raid on a secret press :

The humble petiçōn of the master and wardens of the Company of Stationers, London.

Sheweth, That your petitioners haueing on Friday last receiued informācon of a Presse priuately erected in a victualling house neere Turnebulstreet, The wardens with constables and some others presently resorted thither, where searching they onely found a great part of a Book

called 'The Interpreter.' written by Dr. Cowell secretly kept there: heretofore printed and since by Proclamation called in, and now newly reprinted, which Booke haueing neither lawfull License nor Entrance in y^e Hall Booke nor y^e printers name unto it all which are expressly against y^e Decree in Star Chamber and y^e ancient Ordinances of y^e Company, your petitioners thought it their dutie to seize them; and by vertue of a warrant lately obteyned from your grace, endeavoured quietly to put the same into execution.

But soe it is may it please your grace your petitioners were violently resisted by Lawrence Sadler, Richard Hodgkinson, and especially by one William Buston, a constable sent for by y^e said Sadler out of London to the place where your Petitioners were (being in Middlesex) who hearing y^e said warrant openlye read, not onely refused to obey y^e same as the neighboring constables did & to keepe the peace, but openly protested your petitioners should carry noe Bookes from thence, saying that this warrant was not sufficient for y^t; it did not specially name those bookes.

Your Petitioners further shew that although the warden willed one that came with him to take up some of y^e Bookes to bring them away, the said constable, Sadler and Hodgkinson, with much fury, fell upon him & pulled him by the coller and forced him to lay them down againe, and y^e said Constable taking him by y^e Arme threatned to carry him to Newgate, whervpon your petitioners fearing they might endanger their lives, departed out of y^e house, leaving the said Bookes behinde them.

Forasmuch as this opposicōn is of very evill consequence & tends to the great contempt of authority and gouernment and y^e discouragement of your Petitioners in their dilligent endeavors.

Your Petitioners meekely beseech your grace that a warrant may be granted for the bringing in of y^e said

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Bookes and such order taken with the offenders as your grace in your great wisdom shall deeme fitt.

And your petitioners as in duty bounden shall ever pray &c.

To this Laud appended the following note in his own handwriting:

I desire S^r John Lambe to take present order y^t the Bookes here mencōned be seized and brought into y^e Stacōners Hall. And y^t the three Partyes here complained of be attached, and not sett at liberty untill y^e Bookes be brought in, & that they shall enter very good Security to ansvere these theyr misdemeanors in the high Comission Court, the first Court day of y^e next Terme.

Jul. 9. 1638.

[signed] W. CANT.¹

Altogether I hope it may be conceded that this Tanner manuscript increases our knowledge of the book trade in the months immediately following the Star Chamber decree in a very pleasant fashion.

HENRY R. PLOMER.

¹ Tanner 67. 25.

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THE other day I was 'assisting' at the unveiling of a fine cast of the famous 'Hope Asklepios,' which now provides a noble decoration for the Principal Reading Room in the Library of the Royal Society of Medicine. Making the necessary arrangements, and the time occupied by the ceremony, made such a hole in official hours that I had to take home with me a larger batch of proof than usual, and, as frequently happens, the interest of the work made me forget time and space, and it was only on rising to rekindle a cold pipe that I discovered it was nearly 2 a.m., so I put aside my proofs, relit my pipe and sat down for a little quiet thinking before going to bed.

A sudden ring of the telephone brought back memories of raids and night calls, but on going to the instrument I heard a voice that I thought familiar but could not identify, 'You are wanted at once at the Osler Library. The Committee has adjourned until you can come, and we are sending up one of the staff cars for you.' I murmured something about the lateness of the hour, and said I should be ready. In a few minutes a haughty-looking chauffeur drove up, helped me in, put a magnificent fur rug over my knees, for the night was cold, and drove off in the direction of the Regent's Park. He stopped at a lodge gate which gave entrance to

a large enclosure, and pulled up at the portico of a magnificent building which seemed strangely familiar and yet I could not recall where or when I had seen it.

It was built in the form of a quadrangle, with a great open courtyard in the centre, in which was a noble marble statue. At first I thought I recognised it as the 'Hope Asklepios,' but going closer I was startled to observe that while in every other respect it was a copy of the Asklepios, the face was that of our revered friend and teacher William Osler. Everything was so strange that I did not at the time even think it odd that on gazing at his face, his characteristic smile which we all love, was a *living* smile, and I could have sworn that one of those wonderful eyes solemnly winked at me.

I suddenly found by my side an elderly gentleman who introduced himself as the Bibliothecarius-in-chief, and with grave dignity welcomed me on my first visit to the great Institution of which he was proud to be the head, and proudest of all because it realised the ideals of that great benefactor Osler.

'And yet,' he added, 'the realisation of the scheme is in some respects entirely due to yourself, and I have been deputed by the Committee to take you over the entire building and invite any criticisms you may have to make before the ceremonial opening.'

It all seemed curiously puzzling and yet somehow 'all right,' and I told him how delighted I was, but that if Osler were pleased it was not likely I would be able to suggest any improvements.

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He began by asking me to observe the stately Greek architecture, cleverly adapted in the matter of windows, lighting and ventilation to meet modern demands. He then led the way inside to a great circular entrance hall, lighted from the top of a lofty dome which reminded me of the Pantheon at Rome. There was only one light, at the top, which at first seemed too small for such a vast hall, and yet illuminated the whole space perfectly. I guessed the opening was covered in by glass as a concession to English weather, but it was so cleverly done that it seemed to be open, and my guide explained to me that at night the light was equally good, provided from outside by a powerful searchlight.

In the spaces between the corridors opening out of the central hall there were numerous marble statues, which my guide informed me had been provided by the greatest artists of all the civilised nations that had contributed in any way to the advancement of Medicine, and pointed out with particular pride the latest gift which had been received from the King of the Hedjaz,—a noble image of Avicenna, the work of a young Arab sculptor, who, he assured me, would very soon be recognised as one of the greatest artists the world had ever known. To my surprise and delight I recognised effigies not only of the past, but of some of the present Masters of Medicine. Of course Aesculapius, Hippocrates, Galen and Celsus were there; down the ages with Harvey and the Hunters to Lister, Pasteur, and, as my guide explained, by the special request of Osler, living men who had

done most for the History of Medicine, such as Norman Moore, who was figured as presenting his monumental 'History of St. Bartholomew's,' D'Arcy Power, Raymond Crawford, Cumston and the indefatigable Singer.

My guide, taking out his watch, remarked that we should just be in time for breakfast with the staff, and led the way to the Refectory, which I found to be a noble room with a southern aspect, set out with long tables where many of the staff were already seated, and, in spite of the tempting meal set before them, were already engaged either in earnest conversation or disputation, and my guide explained to me that the rule of the house was that the members of the staff, with himself, took their meals together as in this way they could discuss questions and difficulties without trenching on the time devoted to their official duties. 'An excellent plan,' I said, 'and I suppose you preside?' 'No,' he replied, 'I just take my place here or there among the members of my staff, and I find it does not in any way interfere with discipline to be on the friendliest terms with even the humblest, and encourage them to bring all their difficulties before me. I often find that I get valuable suggestions from even the youngest.'

'Now sit down,' said he, 'and "partake" of a good breakfast.' In spite of the shock I suffered at hearing him use the vile verb, I accepted his invitation. 'For,' said he, 'you will want all your strength before the day is out if you are to see everything.' (Later I discovered an explanation, if not an excuse, for my learned friend's language,

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for in the course of our talk I found he was a regular and diligent reader of the 'Daily Mail.') So I 'partook' of a very excellent breakfast and announced myself ready to follow him to the bitter end.

Leaving the refectory he led me downstairs to what he called the upper basement, the lower basement being reserved for machinery. 'Machinery!' I said, 'what do you want with machinery in a Library?' 'We have our engines for various purposes, for working printing presses, lifts and everything else requiring power,' and with that he led me into the compositors' room, which, in spite of being in the basement, was a well-lighted and well-ventilated apartment, where I found compositors busy filling up formes from written copies of catalogue slips.

'We find it much cheaper in every sense of the word to print our catalogue cards, and certainly an enormous economy of time for our readers and searchers. In the usual card catalogues there is one principal entry which contains the full description of a book, while the numerous cross-references are limited to "See so and so." We print as many copies of the principal entry as we think necessary and then write a short heading on each of the cards to be distributed through the rest of the alphabet for cross-reference, so that the searcher, on finding any cross-reference, at the same time gets all necessary details. If these cards had to be sent out to a printer much valuable time would be lost, whereas by the "Osler" method an hour after a book is received cards with full descriptions can be placed

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in our catalogue. When the cards for the day are printed off, clichés of them are made and stored away in proper order until the time comes when they can be used for printing a great General Catalogue.'

In the next apartment were the printing machines, and I asked whether their noise did not disturb the readers upstairs. 'No,' said my guide, 'we have safeguarded ourselves against that, for the architects have interposed double floors packed so that when you go upstairs you will find there is not the slightest sound to be heard but occasionally a slight vibration which is not in the least disturbing.'

From there he led me to the bindery, of which he seemed to be just as proud as he was of his printing works. 'No book ever leaves the house except to go to a reader. "A stitch in time saves nine" is nowhere so true as in a library, where a loose leaf or cover neglected often means the destruction of the book, so whenever a book shows the slightest signs of disrepair it is sent down here at once and dealt with by skilled workmen, who know how to repair a book without spoiling it. In the next room the actual binding work is done by men specially trained in binding books *for library use*—a very different art from that of the ordinary trade binder. I should allow no one to pass as a qualified librarian who had not a practical knowledge of binding. I don't mean to say that he should be skilled enough to do the work himself, but he should know how instantly to detect bad workmanship. There is no reason why a man should not be a scholar and yet have a practical

knowledge of the arts connected with his work. He may be a student of Lamb and know him by heart, and yet should know better than to bind his books in sheepskin, and, while properly despising "rogues in buckram," should know how excellent a covering is buckram for what we call "upper-shelf books," i.e. books which we must have but which are rarely referred to.

'By doing all this work inside we practically enrich our Library, for is it not an impoverishment, although a temporary one, to have books away at the binders for a month, two months, or even sometimes three months? And here in the case of a single copy of a book which may be at the bindery, if it is an important matter for our reader to see the book at once he is conducted down here, and under the watchful eye of the workman, is allowed to look through the book he desires, which as a rule serves his turn. If he must have the book for a longer time, the binder's slip is marked "urgent," and very rarely has he to wait more than three days before he receives it.'

I noticed an extraordinary number of tubes attached to the upper part of the walls and almost covering the ceiling of the basement. Some of them were about two or three inches in diameter, others much larger. I concluded these were in some way connected with ventilation, but my guide, noticing my curiosity, explained they were pneumatic tubes for all kinds of purposes. The smallest ones were for the instantaneous passage of messages from one department to another. These messages were written, enclosed in a small leathern cylinder,

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and flashed—literally flashed—from one end of the building to the other, and so contrived that they were released and dropped out almost on the desk of the official for whom they were intended. The larger tubes were used for books up to a limited size. By this means instead of waiting for an hour or even longer for a book, as is usual in the largest libraries, with the help of the house telephones and pneumatic tubes a reader could be sitting down before his book within five minutes of entering the building, however remote the book may have been from his table.

Beyond the bindery, and next to the engine room, there was a great installation of electric plant. 'We believe in having two strings to our bow in every important essential, and we cannot run the risk of a breakdown of the municipal supply, and so we produce our own current and find it on the whole economical, while we have provided against a breakdown of our own plant by having an alternative connection with the City plant, only to be turned on if our own breaks down. Here we have the power required for every other purpose, including warming, for we decided not to run the risk, however remote, of our galleries and shelves being flooded by bursting pipes if we warmed the building by hot water or steam, and the radiators, you will observe, throughout the building are all heated by electricity, while in the offices of our staff the cheerier electric stove is installed. Current for lifts, telephones, working of the pneumatic engines, and in fact everything requiring power, is provided here.' I expressed my admiration, but ventured a criticism :

'You appear to have taken every possible precaution against fire, and yet some of the worst fires have taken place in so-called fire-proof buildings, for even if there are no open fires in a building, an accidental spark from the electric plant, or a short circuit, encouraged by such excellent fuel as furniture, wooden shelves, etc., soon provides a bonfire.' My guide smiled and said, 'I am glad you mentioned that; otherwise I might have taken it so much for granted as to have forgotten to mention that the whole of our furniture and carpets are fireproof—a very simple and inexpensive process—and when we go upstairs you will see why we do not dread fire for our bookshelves.'

As he turned to lead me to the upper regions I observed a large trolley full of books emerging from one of the lift doors, and I remarked, 'I suppose these are going to the Bindery.' 'Oh dear me no! They don't need binding, they are going to the dusting room.' 'Dusting room!' I exclaimed, 'what do you mean?' 'I will show you. In discussing the plans for our building with our great Chief, he said, "Can you not contrive some way of getting rid of that infernal nuisance (you know the vigour of his language), the annual closing down of the Library for cleaning?" It practically means that a library is rendered useless for one and sometimes two months in the year, or at any rate a great part of it is, and to me it has always seemed that the "cleaning" would be honestly defined as "shifting the dirt from one place to another." The last time I ventured into the Bodleian when this work was going on I

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thought at first it must be on fire and that the thick fog I tried to peer through was smoke, but I was reassured "It is only dust; we are dusting the books and shelves!"

'Well, we took the matter "into avizandum," as our friends in the north say, and this is the result. We don't intend ever to close the Library for cleaning. The cleaning goes on day by day and every day, in regular rotation. The books are lifted gently (so as not to disturb the dust) from the shelves and placed on one of these noiseless rubber-wheeled trolleys, conveyed to a lift and brought down here by the cleaning staff, while others during their absence wipe down the shelves with a preparation which holds the dust and leaves the shelf perfectly clean. Come into the dusting room.'

We followed the trolley, and I found myself walking nearly ankle-deep in moist sawdust. The expert cleaners seized the books one at a time, and holding the fore-edges tightly, sprinkled the tops with clean damp sawdust, which immediately licked up the dust and was thrown on the ground, when the book was then carefully dusted clean with cloths containing a preparation, which not only cleaned them, but, I was assured, acted as a preservative to the binding. When all were cleaned they were restored to their place on the trolley and carried back to the shelves.

We accompanied the trolley on the lift and were carried to the main library room, a magnificent, well-lighted apartment, shelved all round the walls and with projecting cases in the old-fashioned style,

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forming little bays to give nervous readers an opportunity of doing their work in modified isolation. The shelving seemed of oak, but my guide asked me to examine it more closely, and I found the whole of the shelving, both shelves and up-rights, was formed of steel, so artistically enamelled that unless actually handled it appeared to be of fine grained oak.

My guide went forward to one of the bays, and, stretching out his hands underneath one of the shelves, lifted it and the books together and laid it on the reading table, and then showed me how by a cunning invention the shelves, while quite safely fixed when in position, could, by touching a couple of springs at the ends, be instantly released and thus enable space to be economised to the minutest degree. The tables were of the same material as the shelves, and the oaken chairs, designed for comfort, but yet artistically, were, as he explained to me, absolutely fireproof.

My guide explained that this room, called the General, or Main Library, was the largest, and for the general reader, the favourite room. The other rooms, to which he proposed to lead me presently, were for special study, for the use of readers engaged on research, or themselves writing books, and for whom it was desirable to have a certain amount of seclusion, and their books kept together.

The general lighting was by reflected light thrown by powerful lamps against the white ceiling, by which a delightfully equal light diffused through every corner of the room, while on each reading table I saw there was a separate shaded

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electric lamp provided with current through a cunning attachment to the pedestal.

‘How do you classify your books?’ I asked. ‘We don’t classify them. You can’t classify a Medical Library without doing more harm than good. If all medical books were monographs it could be done and probably would be useful; but when you remember under how many subjects medical books might be looked for, you will recognise that to classify them under one subject would be hiding them in all the others. Therefore, we find that for practical purposes, both as regards economy of space and quickness of service, it is better to shelve the books chronologically and according to size. This means that our Library begins with the earliest books, which are in the remoter parts of the Library, and so we march down through the ages, and the books published during the last ten years are the most accessible, and the book last received is the last one on the shelves. We depend for our classification on the catalogue in which a reference should be found to any particular book, under every subject with which it deals.’ I noticed on the larger tables bulky volumes that looked like atlases, and on turning them over found they were filled with original drawings of all kinds—pathological, anatomical, surgical and bacteriological. ‘Ah,’ said my guide, ‘that is a feature of which we are rather proud. Beautiful and valuable drawings are constantly being made for authors, to illustrate their books and papers published in Transactions, etc., and for the most part, these were destroyed, or at least wasted. Some authors might

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keep them for a while, but sooner or later they found their way to the dust-bin. Now, we have a clerk who, as soon as any particularly good drawing is published, writes to the author and begs him to let us have the original for preservation and display. They are then mounted in these albums with a reference to the paper or book for which they were prepared and are duly entered in our index. No reproduction of a good drawing can ever equal the original, if only for the reason that as a rule they have necessarily to be reduced; and we find our collection immensely appreciated and in constant use. You will see that there is some attempt at classification in these albums. One album will be devoted to drawings of the surgery or anatomy of the thorax, another to the bacteriology of a particular disease, and so on. Sometimes the author will not part with his drawings, and in that case we get the loan of them and make full size permanent photographs of them to mount in our albums. When our photographer is not busy with such work, he fills in his time by photographing from perfect copies illustrations and sometimes title-pages to enable us to make good imperfect copies of our rarer treasures; and we have even been able in this way to produce wonderfully good complete copies of unique books and manuscripts, which can only be found in older libraries.'

'What are those type-written folios I see displayed on that desk?' 'Let us look at them,' said the Chief, 'as that, too, is a feature of which we are rather proud. In a library like this, men are constantly looking up references in connection with their

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own work, compiling bibliographies, so essential an adjunct to any good medical book. Formerly, this work done, we saw the last of it when their sheets were taken away for the printer; and so we offered to present all such workers with a fair typed copy of their work on condition that they allowed us to keep a duplicate, and in this way we have secured many hundreds of valuable bibliographies, which are preserved here for the use of ourselves and our readers.'

We walked on to the adjoining room, equally lofty and equally handsome but smaller, and this I found to be a Reference Library from which, my guide explained, no book was ever allowed to be removed except to the Bindery. 'Not under any circumstances,' he said, 'for we regard it as essential that there should be a copy of every important book *always available*. In the practice of Medicine and Surgery, "next week" or even "to-morrow" should never be heard in a Library. Where life or human suffering is the price to be paid for delay, there must be none, and therefore a sudden demand for any book likely to be required must be instantly answered.

'Without our Reference Library another of our departments would be handicapped if not impossible. One of the items in Osler's prescription ran, "Make the Library as useful to the worker in Timbuctoo and Tierra del Fuego as to the man who lives round the corner." I wrote him, "excellent idea, but how?" He wired back, "Oh, *you* know—quite simple—I'm busy."

'So we had to work it out. We invite our readers abroad and at a distance to keep us informed

as to their lines of work or research. Their names are registered and classified—and every month we send them a “Bulletin” containing references and abstracts of all that has been published on their subject during the previous month. If they want more, they write to the head of our Abstracting Department, and copies and abstracts of articles in books or journals (translated when necessary) are despatched without delay. One of our correspondents lately wrote, in the preface of an epoch-marking book which he had written on the slopes of the Andes, that our help had made it easier for him than if he had been living in London, for he had been saved the time he would have had to spend in making his own researches in the Library!

‘But,’ I said, ‘all this must cost a fabulous amount. The running expenses alone must equal those of a township. You must have an enormous number of members who pay a high subscription.’ ‘Members,’ he answered, almost indignantly, ‘our members, as you call them, include every qualified man and woman throughout the civilized world. Once on a Register a man or a woman is entitled to the best we can do for them without any subscription.’ ‘Ah, you are a State Department?’ ‘No, we are absolutely untrammelled. I thought you knew the origin of the scheme. You remember that twenty years ago Osler celebrated his seventieth birthday and now, although by the kalendar, ninety, he seems determined to prove that a man is not too old at a hundred. The whole civilized world, on the approach of his seventieth birthday, wanted to celebrate it in a way really worthy of their hero,

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and many meetings and long discussions were held on the best way of doing it. Carnefeller got to hear of it and summoned the Testimonial Committee to meet him; brushed all their suggestions on one side and said, "The only sane way of celebrating Osler's biological palinode is by erecting a Library which will realize all his ideals, and if you will carry it out I will provide the dollars," and here he handed a cheque to the Chairman and left us. On examining it we found the cheque was signed in blank, and in the course of a few minutes it was filled up with such a sum as would cover the most ambitious scheme, with a sufficient margin for a liberal endowment and, just in case of accidents, promptly banked.'

'The *body* is wonderful,' I said, 'and your mechanical part seems to be as perfect as could be devised. But what about the *soul*—the *intellect* of this wonderful *body*?' 'I was hoping you would come to that,' said my guide, 'I am the Chief, but I don't pretend to be either the soul or the intellect of such an institution as this. The Chief should be before all things an administrator, and a business man, or the whole institution will suffer. We have in all, at present, twelve librarians, each of whom is supreme in his own department, and I verily believe each is the greatest living authority on the subject he deals with.' 'But how can you get men of such attainments to accept such positions? For while I am sure that the matter of salaries is dealt with as liberally as everything else in this wonderful institution, men of such attainments would probably be earning princely incomes

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by the practice of their profession.' 'No, you are quite wrong. You will find in every profession men who are by temperament students rather than practitioners, and who would rather work for a modest competence in extending their knowledge than in the practice of their profession, and this is notably so in that of Medicine. And so we have here, for example, a man who has, perhaps, a better knowledge of Anatomy than all the Professors put together, but he is happier here adding to and administering our anatomical collection, than he would be if he held the most important Professorship. He has no faculty for teaching and knows it; but raise any abstruse point in Anatomy with him, and he will at once, without consulting any Index or Catalogue, place before you the answer to your question. It is the same with our Surgical Librarian. When he inadvertently removed the second kidney, leaving an overlooked forceps in its place, he decided that the practice of surgery was not his forte, and his love for and wide knowledge of the literature of the subject brought him to us. And so it is with each of the others. They have not exactly a free hand in their departments, for some of them would spend all our available income on their own; but they come to me with their lists of desiderata and I decide, having in view the necessity of a fair balance between one department and another. We are in constant communication, in addition to the practice of taking our meals together in the Refectory. And each has his own room, connected by telephone with mine. We make great use of the telephone.' At this moment

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I saw one of the assistants on a high ladder perilously balancing some heavy volumes, and before I realised the danger boy, books and ladder fell with a crash towards me.—When I came to myself, I heard the telephone ringing, started up and found I was in my own chair by my own fireside, and rushed to the telephone. ‘Hello! Is that Mayfair 3721?’ ‘No, wrong number!’

J. Y. W. MACALISTER.

(Reprinted from the Osler Birthday Book.)

THE EXTRA GILL AND THE FULL QUART POT.

A BIBLIOGRAPHICAL STUDY.

THE year after the defeat of the Spanish Armada found the English people exultant and war-like. The fleet of Spain, consisting of 132 vessels and 30,493 men, had been scattered and defeated with a loss of about one-half of its vessels and three-quarters of its men. Undeterred by this great calamity, Philip was resolved to build smaller vessels and renew the contest by sailing directly to England. Learning of his purpose England regarded her situation as critical and one imperilling her national existence. As the Government was indisposed to undertake any wars except in self-defence, the people were encouraged to fit out expeditions at their own cost, and to such the Queen lent her assistance.

Portugal had been taken by Philip. Don Antonio, an illegitimate member of a branch of the Royal House of that country, was ambitious to be placed on its throne. It is to a narrative of one of the expeditions, fitted out and sent to Portugal to assist him in his purpose, that attention is now called. The expedition was commanded by General Norris, who had had much

experience in the field, and Sir Francis Drake, the circumnavigator of the globe. It left Plymouth on the 18th of April and returned 2nd July, 1589. The narrative is entitled 'A True Coppie of a Discourse written by a Gentleman, employed in the late Voyage of Spaine and Portingale: 58 pp. sm. 4to, London, 1589.

The author is unknown, but Hakluyt, who reprinted it in his 'Principall Navigations,' 2 (1599), 2nd pt., pp. 134-55 (wrongly numbered 143), ascribes it to 'Colonel Anthonie Winkfield' (Wingfield), one of the officers who accompanied the expedition. The object of the writer seems to have been to explain why the expedition had not been more successful and to contradict certain false statements that had been circulated after its return. In the first few pages he gives his reasons for joining the expedition; praises the ability of its commanders; comments upon the insufficiency of its arms, men, and ships, as compared with those that had been promised; and then proceeds to give specific answers to false statements that had been made concerning the mortality among the men and the lack of discipline, of surgeons, of facilities for transportation, and of provisions; all of which had been alleged. Having disposed of these points, he then goes on to give a detailed account of the expedition from the time it landed at the Groyne until its return to England on the 2nd of July following.

The narrative is of especial interest as it introduces an incident in the life of the ill-fated Earl of Essex, the favorite of Queen Elizabeth, who joined

the expedition against the wishes of the Queen, if not in positive disobedience of his Queen's express commands. Though innately polite, Essex was impetuous, headstrong, and indiscreet in his language, and his life at Court was far from being a happy one, not only for himself, but for those with whom he was brought in contact. Learning that this expedition was about to sail he resolved to join it. Notwithstanding the opposition of the Queen, he escaped from Court, rode post haste to Plymouth, and on securing a vessel, immediately sailed out of port, in order to prevent being intercepted in his design, and awaited the sailing of the fleet which he had planned to join. Failing in this he sailed after it and did not finally fall in with it until 13th May, some three weeks after it had arrived at Portugal.

In the account of the expedition the name of Essex appears several times, but in none of them as playing any important part. In his introduction the writer says (page 12), in answer to the charge that there was a lack of proper means of transportation, that Essex hired men to carry the sick and wounded on pikes, on account of the lack of mules and asses, and that he even threw away apparel and necessities from his own carriage in order to give place to them. A page is devoted to an account of his joining the expedition, but to this we shall return later.

We are told (page 27) that, on one occasion, Essex with Sir Roger Williams and his brother landed some men to meet the enemy, but returned without engaging them. At another time (page

33) he went out with Sir Roger Williams about eleven o'clock at night to lay an ambush, but returned without an encounter. Again (page 33), when the English were before Lisbon and the enemy was retreating, the Earl chased them even to the gates of the high town. Later, his name is merely mentioned, once (page 38) when orders were given for retiring from Lisbon, and again (page 39) when the news of the approach of the enemy 'was welcome to the Earl of Essex and the Generals as they offered every one of them to give the messenger 100 crowns.'

Perhaps the most glorious act placed to his credit, occurred when, on the same occasion (page 40) General Norris dispatched a messenger with a trumpet, 'by whom he writ a Cartell to the Generall of their Armie, where he gaue them the lie, in that it was by them reported that we dislodged from *Lisbone* in disorder and feare of them (which indeede was most false) for that it was fieve of the clock in the morning before wee fell into Armes, and then went in such sort, as they had no courage to followe out vpon vs. Also challenged him therein, to meete him the nexte morning with his whole Armie, if he durst attend his coming, and there to trie out the iustnes of their quarrell by battaile: by whom also the Earle of *Essex* (who preferring the honor of the cause, which was his Countries, before his owne safetie) sent a particular Cartell, offering himselfe against any of theirs, if they had any of his qualitie: or if they would not admit of that, five, eight, or tenne, or as many as they would appoynt, should meet so many of theirs

in the head of our Battaile to trie their fortunes with them, and that should haue assurance of their returne and honorable intreatie.'

And finally (page 42), we are told that on the sixth of June 'the Earle of *Essex*, vpon receipt of letters from her Maiestie, by them that brought in the victualls, presentlie departed towards England.'

But let us now return to the passage (page 26) we have passed and see the report there given of his arrival. It reads as follows:

The 13, day [of May], the Earle of *Essex*, and with him Master Walter Deuereux his brother (a Gentleman of wonderful great hope), Sir Roger Williams, Colonell generall of the foot men, Sir Philip Butler, who hath alwaies been most inward wth him, and Sir Edward Wingfield, came into the Fleete. The Earle hauing put himselfe into the Journey against the opinion of the world, and as it seemed to the hazard of his great fortune [for the reasons already given], though to the great aduancement of his reputation, (for as the honorable cariage of himselfe towards all men, doth make him highlie esteemed at home: so did his exceeding forwardnes in all seruices, make him to be wondrrred (sic) at amongst vs) who, I say, put off in the same winde from *Famouth*, that wee left Plymouth in, where he lay, because he would auoide the importunitie of messengers that were daylie sent for his returne, and some other causes more secret to himselfe, not knowing (as it seemed) what place the Generals purposed to land in, had been as far as *Cales* in *Andalosia*, and lay up and downe about the South Cape, where he tooke some ships laden with Corne, and brought them vnto the Fleete. Also in his returne from thence to meete with our Fleete, he fell with the Ilands of Bayon; and on that side of the riuier which *Cannas* standeth vpon, he, with Sir Roger Williams and those Gentlemen

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that were with him went on shore, with some out of the ship he was in, whom the Enemie, that held gard upon that Coast, would not abide, but fled into the countrie.

Here the account ends in one of the two copies (the Halsey copy) in the library of Mr. Henry E. Huntington. When John Payne Collier wrote his account of this little work, from the Second Issue, in his 'Rarest Books' (Lond., 1: 257-9; N.Y., 1: 317), he seems to have been quite unaware that of this pamphlet there were

TWO ISSUES.

It appears that the account given above, as taken from the First Issue, left something yet to be desired in praise of Essex, for the leaf on which the last few lines of the above was printed was cancelled and nine and one-third (9-1/3) lines of new matter were added in greater praise of Essex. These new lines appear on page 27 of the Huth copy ('Cat.,' 2: 443; 'Sale,' 2: 2451), and are as follows:

After his cōming into the fleet (to the great reioycing of vs all) he demaunded of the Generals, that after our Armie should cōme on shore, he might alwaies haue the leading of the vangard, which they easilie yeelded vnto: as being desirous to satisfie him in all things, but especially in matters so much tending to his honor as this did; so as from the time of our first landing in *Portingall*, he alwaies marched in the poynt of the vangard, accompanied with Sir Roger Williams (except when the necessitie of the place hee held) called him to other seruices.

Now this reprinted leaf is of the utmost importance and interest to the bibliographer and

student of Elizabethan book-making as it illustrates, in the briefest possible space, more of the peculiar methods employed by the printers of that era than are to be found elsewhere in so limited a compass.

As originally printed the leaf contained two pages of thirty-seven lines each; as reprinted, it contains, including the nine and one-third lines of absolutely new matter, two pages of thirty-eight lines each, and yet not an essential word of the original matter has been omitted.

How did the compositor manage to get all this new matter into these two pages without over-running? It is perfectly safe to say that no modern printer could have done it. How then could the Elizabethan printer succeed in doing what his successor in the art preservative of arts cannot do? Simply because he was allowed more flexibility in his work than is permitted in the present day.

The printer of the present day is restricted by certain rules and standards that hamper him in his work but which he is compelled to observe. Now the Dictionary establishes a fixed rule for spelling; then the printer could spell as he liked. He could expand or condense his spelling to meet his requirements. What were those requirements?

If we look at a book printed, say before 1641, we shall find that the spacing between the words is very close. This was a requirement followed by all printers in those days, and to accomplish it, and not give the scrappy look that meets the eye when we look at a modern book, he made use of a variety of means in order to comply with his Procrustean

rule for close spacing. In fact, the whole secret, if any there be, was in the justifying of the lines. When the modern printer, with his fixed rules for spelling and for the dividing of words, comes to the end of a line and finds that he cannot get in the whole of a word or a part of it, he goes back and puts in more spaces between the words. The result is that we find in a book printed at the present day one line closely spaced and the next one openly spaced. This it can readily be seen destroys the harmonious uniformity of spacing so generally found in the old books of which we are speaking. The books of the early printers have been much admired and justly so. May it not be, that, in addition to the symmetry of the page, the excellence of the paper, and the beauty of the characters, the evenness of the spacing, so noticeable in the products of the early presses, has unconsciously added to our admiration of these works more than we have been accustomed to realize?

The Elizabethan printer went about his work with more freedom than the compositor of the present. He lengthened the spelling of a word where necessary to fill out a line, or, if he wished to condense it and get more into a line, shortened or abbreviated words, which he considered as indispensable requisites to good printing.

If we look at the cancel and the cancelled leaf in the book under consideration we find that they present a beautiful uniformity of appearance, so far as spacing is concerned, and yet really the cancel contains one-ninth more matter than the cancelled

riuer which *Cannas* standeth vpon, he, with Sir Roger Williams, and those Gentlemen that were with him went on shore, with some men out of the ship he was in, whom the Enemy, that held gard vpon that Coast, would not abide, but fled vp into the countrie.

The 16. day we landed at *Penicha* in *Portingall*, vnder the shot of the Castle, and aboue the waile in water, more than a mile from the towne, wherein many were in perill of drowning, by reason the winde was great, and the Sea went high, which ouerthrew one boate, wherein five and twentie of Captaine Dolphins men perished. The Enemy, being five Companies of *Spaniards* vnder the commandment of the Conde de *Fuentes*, sallied out of the towne against vs, and in our landing made their approach close by the water side. But the Earle of *Essex*, with Sir Roger Williams and his brother, hauing landed sufficient number to make two troupes, left one to hold the way by the water side, and led the other ouer the *Sandhills*: which the Enemy seeing, dyed theirs likewise further into the land; not, as we coniectured, to encounter vs, but inbrede to make their speedie passage away: notwithstanding, they did it in such sort, as being charged by ours which were sent out by the Colonell generall vnder Captaine Jackson, they stood the same euen to the push of the pike: in which charge and at the push, Captaine Robert Piew was slaine. The Enemy being fled further than we had reason to followe them, all our Companies were drawne to the towne: which being vnsortified in any place, we found vndefended by any man against vs. And therefore the General caused the castle to be summoned that night: which being abandoned by him that commanded it, a *Portingall*, named Antonio de Aurid, being possessed thereof, desired but to be assured that Don Anthonio was liued, whereupon he would deliuer the same, which he honestly performed. There was taken out of the Castle some 100. shot and pikes, which Don Emanuel furnished his *Portingalls* withall, and twentie barrells of powder: so as pos-
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river which *Cannas* standeth vpon; he, with Sir Roger Williams, & those Gentlemen that were with him went on shoze, with some men out of the ship he was in, whom the enemy that held gard vpon the Coast, would not abide, but fled by into the countrie. After his coming into the Fleet (to the great reioycing of vs all) he demaunded of the Generalls, that after our Armie should come on shoze, he might alwaies haue the leading of the vanguard, which they easilie yielded vnto: as being desirous to satisfie him in all things, but especially in matters so much tending to his honor as this did; so as from the time of our first landing in *Portingall*, hee alwaies marched in the poynt of the vanguard, accompanied with Sir Roger Williams (except when the necessitie of the place hee held) called him to other seruices.

The 16. day we landed at *Penicha* in *Portingall*, vnder the shot of the Castle, and aboue the wast in water, more than a mile from þe towne, wherein many were in peril of drowning, by reason the wind was great, & the Sea went high, which overthrowed one boat wherein 25. of Captaine Dolphins men perished. The Enemy, being fūe companies of *Spaniards* vnder the commaundement of þe Conde de Fuentes, sallied out of the towne against vs, & in our landing made their approach close by the water side. But the Earle of Essex, wth Sir Roger Williams & his brother, hauing landed sufficient number to make 2. troupes, left one to hold the way by the water side, and led þe other ouer the Sandhills: which the Enemy seeing, drew theirs likewise further into the land; not, as we coniectured, to encounter vs, but indeede to make their speedie passage away: notwithstanding they did it in such sort, as being charged by ours which were sent out by þe Colonell generall vnder Captaine Iackson, they stood the same euen to the push of the pike: in which charge & at the push, Captaine Robert Picow was slaine. The Enemy being fled further thā we had reason to follow them, al our companies were drawn to the towne: which being vnfortified in any place, we found vnderfended by any man against vs. And therefore the Generall caused the castle to bee summoned þe night: which being abandoned by him that commaunded it, a *Portingall*, named *Arxom*



leaf. The printer has, in fact, admirably succeeded in pouring another gill into an already full quart pot.

If we critically examine his methods we shall find that, nearly, if not all of the devices then practised by his craft in order to secure the strict uniformity of close spacing then demanded, have been employed. Of course, in the present instance, this applies more especially to condensation than to the expansion of matter.

In the first place we find that he has made great use of contractions, as the following table will demonstrate. For example, instead of spelling the word 'and,' as in the cancelled leaf, the printer has made use of the ampersand, '&,' fifteen times. This method was one of the common ones in practice with the printers of that time. The table gives other examples, as follows:

(1) CONTRACTIONS.

& for and	15 times.
y (final) for ie	8 „
ŷ for the	11 „
ō „ om	4 „
õ „ on	once.
ã „ an	„
ée (logotype) for ee	6 times.
oo „ „ oo	once.
ŷ for that	4 times.
ŵ „ with	4 „
S „ Sir	twice.
ships for shippes	once.
figures for words	4 times.
lower-case letters for caps.	18 times.

We next find that he has frequently omitted the final letters of words, as in the following examples:

(2) OMISSIONS.

final e	15 times.
„ l	12 „
medial e	4 „
„ k	once.

2 unessential words in the 1st Issue are omitted in the 2nd:

some, p. 27, 3rd line from end;
moft, p. 28, line 30.

Changes in punctuation cannot really be said to effect much in the way of condensation, but we have noted two or three examples as follows:

(3) PUNCTUATION.

Omitted in 2nd Issue	3 times.
Added „ „	once.
Changed	once.

Again, in resetting his type the printer has met with a few instances in which he found it necessary to extend the line in order to adhere to his inflexible rule of close and uniform spacing:

(4) EXTENSIONS IN SECOND ISSUE.

an for ã	once.
on „ õ	„
ie (final) for y	„
u added	twice.
l (final) added	„
e „ „	„

selling both the Towne and the Castle, were rested there one day; wherein some Priests and other poore men came vnto their new King, promising in the name of their Countrie next adioining, that within two daies he should haue a good supplie of horse and foote for his assistance. That day we remained there, the Generalls companie of horses were unshipped.

The Generalls hauing there resolved that the Armie should march ouer land to *Lisbone* vnder the conduct of Generall Norris: and that Generall Drake should meet him in the riuer thereof with the Fleet: that there should be one Companie of foote left in garde of the Castle, and sixe in the shippes: also that the sicke and hurt should remaine there with provisions for their cures. The Generall, to trie the euent of the matter by expedition, the next day began to march in this sort: his owne Regiment, and the Regiments of Sir Roger Williams, Sir Henrie Norris, Colonel Lane, & Colonel Medkerk, in the Vanguard: General Drake, Colonel Deuereux, Sir Edward Norris, and Colonell Sidneis in the Battaille: Sir James Hales, Sir Edward Wingfield, Colonell Vimpsons, Colonell Huntlies, & Colonell Brets in the Arriere-ward. By that time our Armie was thus marshalled, Generall Drake, who though he were to passe by Sea, yet to make knowne the honorable desire he had of taking equall part of all fortunes with vs, stode vpon the ascent of an hill, by the which our Battalions must of necessitie march, and with a pleasing kindnes toke his leaue severallie of the commanders of euerie Regiment, wishing vs all most happie successe in our iourney ouer the land, with a constant promise that he would, if the iniurie of the weather did not hinder him, meete vs in the riuer of *Lisbone* with our Fleet. The want of carriages the first day was such, as they were enforced to carrie their Munition vpon mens backs, which was the next day remedied.

In this march Captaine Crisp the Prouost Marshall, caused one who (contrarie to the proclamation published

as

rio de Aurid, being possessed thereof, desired but to be assured that Don Antonio was landed, whereupon he would deliver p same, which he honestly performed. There was taken out of the castle 100. shot & pikes, which Don Emanuel furnished his *Portingals* withall, & 20. barrels of powder: so as possessing both p towne & the castle, we rested there one day; wherein some friers & other pious men came unto their newe King, promising in the name of their Countrie next adioyning, that within two daies he should haue a good supplie of hoise & foote for his assistance. That day we remained there, the Generals company of hoises were unshipped.

The Generals hauing there resolved p the Armie should march ouerland to *Lisbone* vnder p conduct of genethl Norris: & that general Drake should meet him in the riuer thereof in the skete: that there should be one company of foote left in gard of the castle, & 6. of the ships: also p the sicke and hurt should remaine there in prouisions for their cures. The General, to trie p enent of the matter by expedition, the next day began to march on this sort: his owne regiment, & the regiments of Sir Roger Williams, Sir Henrie Norris, Colonel Lane, & Colonel Medkerk, in the Vanguard: Generall Drake, Colonel Deuereux, S. Edward Norris, & Colonel Sidneis in p Battaille: S. James Hales, Sir Edward Wingfield, Colonell Vimprons, Colonell Huntleis, & Colonell Brets in the arereward. By that time our armie was thus marshalled, general Drake, who though he were to passe by sea, yet to make known the honozable desire he had of taking equal part of al fortunes to vs, stood vpon the ascent of an hill, by p which our Battalions must of necessitie march, & with a pleasing kindnes toke his leaue severally of the commaunders of euerie regiment, wishing vs al happy successe in our iourney ouer the land, with a constant promise p he would, if the iniury of p wether did not hinder him, meet vs in the riuer of *Lisbone* with our skete. The want of carriages the first day was such, as they were enforced to carrie their ammunition vpon mens backs, which was the next day remedied.

In this march Captaine Crispe, the Prouost Marshall, caused one who (contrarie to the proclamation published at

We have noted a few other changes of a miscellaneous character which are probably due to the personal equation of the compositor who did this particular piece of work. They are as follows:

(5) OTHER CHANGES IN THE SECOND ISSUE.

Italic cap. for swash cap.	twice.
Swash „ „ Italic „	once.
y for i	twice.
n „ m (an error)	once.
the for that, p. 27, line 4.	
of „ in, p. 28, „ 13.	
on „ in, p. 28, „ 16.	

To summarize, we have, within the space of 67 lines, 139 changes, embodying some 37 varieties. If an equal number are to be found elsewhere in as limited a space we have yet to learn of it

This pamphlet is of interest to the historian because of the famous men who appear in it as actors and especially for the part played by the unfortunate Earl, who later fell a victim of his own unhappy traits. To the bibliographer this interest is subordinated to the fact that here we have displayed, in a very restricted space, almost every device that the printers of old were accustomed to employ in condensing lines in order to adhere to their inflexible rule for close spacing.

GEORGE WATSON COLE.

SOME RECENT FRENCH BOOKS.

CERTAIN French novelists seem moved with a desire to emphasize the advantages of country life in order to aid in checking the exodus to the towns and the adoption of city occupations. However good this object, it may be doubted whether the novels inspired by it will add much to their authors' reputations. It is distasteful to criticise in this way the last work of one who made the great sacrifice for his country, but in 'Les Étudiants' Emile Moselly has not, I think, made out his case. He describes a certain set of students at one of the provincial universities, the University of Lyons, all of whom fail to pass the examination for the degree, and draws the conclusion that country born and bred youths should eschew a university education. Surely this merely proves that some youths are unsuited to university life and should remain peasants, as were their fathers before them. Yet it is the ambition of all French parents in the lower classes to give their sons an education that shall enable them to rise to a higher position than that in which they were born. And further, we know that, notwithstanding their defects, the provincial universities of France do produce scholars and men who do well in professional careers. Indeed, there is evidence that while Moselly can write in praise of country life—'Nous autres, les gens de la campagne, on a

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tout de même de bons moments. . . . On est son maître et on vit content. Et puis quel plaisir de se rendre utile à quelque chose! Tu ne sais pas comme on est heureux de voir pousser ce qu'on a semé, quand ça ne serait qu'une pomme de terre'— he knew how to appreciate the scholar. He draws a delightful portrait of one of the university professors, 'le père Fabien' as the students affectionately call him. A lover of the classics, he electrified his class with the reading, not the translation, of Virgil: 'Traduire Virgile! Quelle présomption!' But his gestures supplied the words. His profound sensibility lent to the Roman poet 'les inquiétudes de l'âme moderne! Inimitable devin, qui dans un âge de force et de conquête, a pressenti nos lassitudes et nostalgies!' As for Fabien himself, 'il avait un savoir universel, qu'il portait allégrement comme les grands humanistes de la Renaissance.'

The note of love of the land to which I referred above is also struck by Henri Bachelin in 'Le Village.' The volume, like 'Le Serviteur,'¹ relates the simple annals of the poor, but in a less attractive fashion. It was probably written earlier as the preface is dated 1912, while the date of publication is 1919.²

'Le Village' is an artistic piece of work. Bachelin shows that the inhabitants of a village are not

¹ See 'LIBRARY,' October, 1918, 259-62.

² I must confess that French bibliography is most baffling. The other day I came upon what looked like a first published posthumous work of Rémy de Gourmont. The date 1919 figured on the cover and the title was not quite familiar. On examination of the contents I found it to be a collection of essays, all of which I knew perfectly well, and which had been published at least seven years ago.

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necessarily all virtuous, but all are simple-minded, even in their crimes. Sons and daughters leave the village for a larger life in the town, forget or neglect their parents, but always return to attend their funerals. The men, some of them, get drunk, and the women, most of them, talk scandal; some grow rich and prosper, while others waste their substance; wrongdoers repent or brazen out their crimes.

Here is a vignette of village life:

'Le village n'a point de rues. Des chemins aboutissent à la route qui le traverse quand il n'est pas situé au beau milieu des champs ou sur la lisière d'un bois. On y use plus de sabots que de bottines. On y mange plus de légumes que de viande. On y boit plus d'eau que de vin. . . . La vie du village reste stagnante. . . . Le village a sa vie propre qui n'est celle ni de la ville, ni de la petite ville.'

But Bachelin has to own that gradually civilisation penetrates the village—threshing-machines appear, the local railway has a halt near by, and echoes of the busy world are heard on all sides. Dull as village life looks to the outsider, Bachelin shows how much it means to the peasants who live it. There is sincerity in every word he writes.

The charm of the prose of Francis Jammes is almost as great as that of his poetry. He calls his latest prose work, 'Monsieur le Curé d'Ozeron,' a novel. It certainly has some of the elements of that form of literature; domestic tragedy is not to seek nor are the commonplaces of everyday life as lived in a little Pyrenean village, and over all hovers the devotional spirit of the curé who, with knowledge of and toleration for human error, leads his parishioners

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in the way they should go. A vein of religious mysticism runs through the book, and we accept the visit of an angel to earth because of the absolute sincerity with which the occurrence is treated. The idea of the pearl necklace, each bead of which is turned into money and used to good purpose, is full of poetry and romance.

‘Cette charité royale, ce don par une jeune mariée, au prêtre-poète, de l’objet qui lui était le plus précieux, de ce collier par quoi elle faisait un sacrifice moral et matériel aux malheureux, entre les mains de celui qui lui avait révélé, par ses écrits, tout ce que la vie renferme de plus sublime.’

Of great beauty and poetical charm is the scene where the little dumb daughter of the giver of the pearls finds her speech by falling into shallow water in her effort to gather for her mother the water-drops of the mill-stream, which under the electric light looked like pearls—‘Maman,’ she exclaimed, ‘avec l’eau du moulin, j’ai voulu te faire un collier de perles.’

Edmond Rostand intended his poem ‘Le vol de la Marseillaise,’ now posthumously published, to cover the whole history of that inspiring and inspiriting national song, from the moment when it took its flight from Strasbourg until it returned to rest there finally, now that Alsace-Lorraine has thrown off the oppressor’s yoke. But he unhappily did not live to accomplish his purpose. The poem, however, that gives the title to the volume before me deserves to rank among Rostand’s best work for its high emotion, its passionate patriotism, its

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perfection of typical expression. The creator of the Marseillaise sought in Rostand's words to give wings to sabots, and succeeded in so doing; he asked, 'des cris peuvent-ils s'écrire?' and he wrote them down, and awoke in all hearts 'Le désir d'être libre et de savoir mourir!'

Despite the changes in the methods of warfare, the old song has survived:

'Et quand tout est nouveau, les armes, la méthode,
La forme de la gloire et celle du danger,
N'ayant pas dans son aile une plume à changer,
La Marseillaise vole!—et pour hausser les âmes,

Il suffira toujours d' "Aux armes, citoyens!"'

An interesting poem in the volume, and one that should recommend itself to those who are striving to teach youth how to express themselves in writing, is 'L'ordre du jour.' Here the poet points out how in order to testify to the courage of the soldiers, French style which was becoming overladen returned to the 'clarté et justesse' of old. In war time the adjective is 'plus calme' than in days of peace; 'superbe' is rare, 'magnifique' infrequent, 'beau' is sufficient. And what can be more beautiful, more simple than the phrase 'ordre du jour' itself?

'L'Ordre du Jour—le Jour et l'Ordre
La Discipline et les Rayons!
La Volonté, mais la Lumière!'

Other poems which bear the impress of Rostand's lyric gift are 'La vitre,' 'Le faucheur basque,' and 'Les rûches brûlées.'

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In 'La Cathédrale de Reims. Un crime allemand' (Laurens), Monseigneur Landrieux, the present bishop of Dijon, who was curé of Reims Cathedral from 1912 to 1916, brings by the mere presentation of facts a crushing indictment against German barbarism. The author was witness, minute by minute, of the phases of the drama; he lived through the sinister hours. A most valuable proof of the terrible damage is afforded by the inclusion in the volume of ninety-six photographs, as well as a plan of the cathedral and the surrounding buildings and streets on which are plainly marked the places where German shells fell from 4th September, 1914, to 21st March, 1918, and also the buildings which were burnt down.

It is unnecessary to retell here the terrible story. Some have thought that it would be well to leave the cathedral in its ruined condition as an everlasting testimony to German infamy. But such is not the opinion of the bishop nor according to his showing of the people of Reims, and he closes his book with a powerful and eloquent plea for restoration, at least so far as it is possible. 'Le patriotisme, l'art, l'histoire, notre dignité nationale réclament la restauration de Notre-Dame de Reims: est ce trop dire que la Religion l'exige. . . . Reims a conscience de n'avoir pas mérité l'humiliation de garder sa Cathédrale défigurée, amoindrie, Reims déclare qu'elle l'aime trop et, qu'elle en est trop fière pour se résigner jamais à la voir moins belle!'

There are surely artists and artisans enough in France to set their minds and hands to the sacred work.

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In 'Hélène enchaînée' Marguerite Combes has sought to construct a third part to Goethe's Faust. Under the reign of science a great people has arisen (a way of interpreting Faust's last speech) and modern Germany is here personified in Faust. In his words are embodied the whole of the modern German theory of force. Not content with what force gives him he seeks to bind Helen, that is, beauty, to his chariot wheels. Can Faust make beauty submit to force? No, 'Hélène enchaînée par Faust a brisé glorieusement ses fers.' I do not know if the author is acquainted with Milton's Comus but there is a certain similarity in the position of Helen in the power of Faust and the situation of the Lady in the hands of Comus.

The idea is a bold one but I take it that only those well acquainted with the second part of Faust will be able to follow this third part with ease and advantage. There is a preface by Paul Adam.

The man and his work are not always to be explained by the place in which he is born and lives. Yet interest is invariably aroused by the places in which great men have lived and died. On a hot and dusty railway journey from Siena to Florence, I remember feeling less thirsty and weary when we stopped for a few minutes at Certaldo and I called to mind Boccaccio and one of Landor's most delightful Imaginary Conversations. Montaigne noted the emotion aroused by the sight of places in which there once lived 'les personnes desquelles la mémoire est en recommandation.' For this reason Gabriel Faure's 'Pèlerinages Passionnés' will find a warm

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welcome. He chats to us about Goethe in Italy and at Valmy, about the Italy of Flaubert and about autumn in George Sand's Nohant. Echoes of the war are heard in a chapter entitled 'Souvenir d'Ypres.' Perhaps the most interesting pages are those devoted to Goethe's part in the King of Prussia's campaign, against France in 1792 when he accompanied the Duke of Weimar to the Marne. When Verdun was taken, Goethe immediately visited the confectioners' shops in order to send bonbons to his numerous lady friends in Germany. If he by chance went near a battery in action he did not stay long in its neighbourhood because the noise 'hurt my pacific ears.' Yet he did not disdain looting bottles of wine and the 'good white' French bread, nor did he take amiss the burning of villages under the pretext that the civilian inhabitants had fired on the troops. Later, however, when Eckermann asked if during the campaign he had felt hatred for France, he replied: 'How could I for whom civilisation and barbarism are such important things hate a nation which is one of the most civilised in the world and to which I owe so large a part of my developement?' A very pleasant hour may be spent amid these landscapes.

* * * *

The following recently published books deserve attention:

Petite Histoire de la Grande Guerre. Par H. Vast. (Delagrave.)

This excellent little work is intended primarily for young people in the schools and lycées of France and also

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as an 'aide-mémoire' for the general public, so that they may be able to grasp 'dans leur suite logique les grands événements politiques des cinq dernières années et de conserver l'intelligence claire des opérations militaires sur les théâtres multiples de la guerre.' It forms a useful survey and contains numerous maps.

Journal du Commandant Raynal. Le Fort de Vaux. (Albin Michel.)

A brilliant account by the chief actor of the famous defence. His book forms a splendid monument to the glory of the soldiers who were his comrades in arms. Incidentally in the account of his imprisonment in Germany Raynal throws much light on the curious mentality of his German captors, the Crown Prince among them.

En Batterie! Verdun (1916). La Somme. L'Aisne. Verdun (1917). Par Lieutenant Fonsagrive. (Delagrave.)

Notes of a gunner who relates what he did, saw and felt in the course of these great battles.

Les Serbes Croates et Slovènes. Par A. Chaboseau. **Le Scandinavisme dans le passé et dans le présent.** Par Olof Höijer. (Editions Bossard.)

Useful little volumes in the present conditions of European reconstruction.

Frangipane et Cie. Par Marcel Nadaud. (Albin Michel.)

A delightfully humorous and pathetic sketch of the end of Chignole, a Paris gamin turned aviator. Chignole, Nadaud's fictitious hero, has been well named 'Gavroche . . . avec des ailes!'

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La Psychologie du Kaiser. Par Henri Mazel.
(Renaissance du Livre.)

A volume of the 'Bibliothèque internationale de critique sociologie et politique.' Mazel here establishes the pre-meditated guilt of the German emperor in regard to the war. Indeed the book might furnish the necessary material for the case for the prosecution in the trial.

Problèmes économiques d'après guerre. Par L. de Launay. (Armand Colin.)

The author deals with after war industrial conditions under such headings as industrial organization, transport and natural forces.

Le Revers de 1914 et ses Causes. Par Lieutenant-Colonel de Thomasson. (Berger-Levrault.)

A study of the 'causes multiples, d'ordre politique et social aussi bien que militaire auxquelles est due la calamiteuse bataille des frontières du mois d'août 1914.'

Les dernières années de Turenne 1660-75. Par Camille-Georges Picavet.

This book is based on a Sorbonne thesis presented in June, 1914. The author, for a long time a prisoner in Germany, was only able to continue his work after internment in Switzerland in 1917, and so the volume only saw the light in 1919. Picavet attempts to trace the part played by Turenne in the events both at home and abroad with which he was contemporary, with his attitude to Louis XIV, Colbert, Louvois and other striking personalities of his last years.

Idées et doctrines littéraires du xvii^e siècle (Extraits

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des préfaces, traités et autres écrits théoriques). Par Francisque Vial et Louis Denise.

This collection of extracts forms an admirable anthology of the principles of criticism—volumes for the eighteenth and nineteenth centuries are to follow—and should be of great use to students and even to the professional literary critic who may learn here not only what a writer actually accomplished but also what he intended to do.

ELIZABETH LEE.

NOTES ON THE SEVENTEENTH CENTURY PRINTING PRESS OF THE ENGLISH COLLEGE AT SAINT OMERS.

I. THE ST. OMERS ENGLISH BOOK-TRADE.

HAVING recently had occasion to examine a large number of the English Catholic books published at St. Omers in the seventeenth century, I have arrived at certain conclusions about them which, I am advised, may be of use to others. Hence these notes. They will be confined, for the present, to books produced not later than 1642.

I doubt whether it is at all realised nowadays how large a flood of these books was poured at that time from the presses at St. Omers. Appearing as they did for the most part without any indication on their title-pages of publisher or place of origin, one finds them often enough conjecturally ascribed in the British Museum catalogue and elsewhere to Douay or other continental centres of English Catholicism. Yet it is very doubtful if even Douay produced during those years as many English works of controversy and devotion as did St. Omers. Take John Gee's list of 'books printed and dispersed by the Priests and their agents in

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this Kingdome within these two years last past or thereabouts'—one of the appendices to that interesting book of his, 'The Foot Out of the Snare,' printed in 1624. Of some 150 titles here contained, over a third can be identified as those of books recently printed or reprinted at St. Omers. Or, if we take the works of English Jesuit writers in particular—and these form a very large proportion of the whole—it will be found that nearly all of them are from the same source.¹

The reason is not far to seek. In the first place there was no more convenient starting-place for England than St. Omers; secondly, it was here that in 1592 Father Robert Persons established his famous English College² and the Headquarters of the English Mission of the Society of Jesus.

II. FRANCIS BELLET, 1601-1609.

FRANCIS BELLET was the first licensed printer at St. Omers. Up to 1601 he had served at Antwerp under Christopher Plantin and Moretus. The letter to the Privy Council at Brussels, dated 8th October, 1601, in which the town authorities support his petition for a licence to set up a press is still preserved in the Brussels archives. It shows us that among the chief motives which attracted

¹ See in Foley's 'Records of the English Province S.J.,' vol. vi, pp. 521-32, a catalogue written in 1632 and now at Rome of 'English Writers S.J.' The list of writings is far from complete, but of some 112 English books enumerated, not less than 86 are stated to have been printed at St. Omers.

² For the history of this foundation, which after three migrations still survives as the Catholic College of Stonyhurst, see Gerard's 'History of Stonyhurst' (London, 1894).

Bellet to St. Omers was the prospect of English trade there. 'Y a le collège des estudians anglois en grand nombre qu'il a pleu à sa majesté establir . . . en ceste ville, et aultres colleges . . . ausquels le faiçt dudiçt Belet . . . polra servir de beaucoup.'

By a piece of singular good fortune I have recently come across a copy of what is apparently the very first book produced by Bellet at his new press. It now belongs to the Stonyhurst Library, and lies before me as I write—a little vellum-bound duodecimo of 300 pages with the title: 'Epistres Dorees de S. Hierome, traduites de Latin en François. . . . A S. Omer, chez François Bellet, Libraire & Imprimeur juré, en la Tenne-rue, 1602. Avec permission des superieurs.' The printer's dedication 'A Messeigneurs Messieurs les Mayeur et Eschevins de la Ville et Cité de S. Omer' is dated 'De S. Omer, ce dernier de Septembre, jour de S. Hierome, 1602.' In this little book, he says he offers them his first fruits, 'Ayant esté admis le premier & attiré par vostre munificence liberale pour exercer en ceste ville l'art d'Imprimerie.'

Did Bellet print English books? I shall give later on my reasons for ascribing to him at least five important works of Father Persons himself during the years 1603 to 1607. The prospects of his *imprimerie* must have begun to look rosy. Then comes a sudden disappointment. In 1609 (note the date) he leaves St. Omers for Ypres. And note the reason given. Someone had set up *another*

¹ De Lauwereyns 'L'Imprimerie à S. Omer' in 'Bulletin Historique de la Soc. des Antiq. de la Morinie,' vol. vij, p. 235 (1883).

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press, which deprived him of the very trade on which he had counted most of all.¹

III. THE ENGLISH COLLEGE PRESS.

THERE can be no possible doubt where and by whom that 'other press' was established. Father Henry More, the historian of the English Province S.J., tells us² how Father Persons, soon after his confirmation by the General of the Society as Prefect of the Mission—this was in May, 1606—determined among other undertakings on a means to supply his countrymen with books of piety and devotion. To this end he set up at St. Omers a printing-press with all needful equipment, and placed it under the direction of a former secretary of his, a priest named John Wilson. Father More does not mention the date, and I have not found

¹ De Lauwereyns, l.c.

² 'Historia Provinciae Anglicanae' (1660), lib. vi, p. 248. 'Postremo ut suae gentis hominibus in promptu esset librorum copia, tum . . . ad alendam pietatem, tum ad haereticorum deliria detegenda, comparatum Audomari praelum cum omni necessario instrumento, commisit pio sacerdoti *Io. Wilsono*, qui illi fuerat Romae Amanuensis, ut quos accepisset libros in lucem ederet. Cautumque fuit more provinciarum Societatis ut Censores constituerentur, qui scriptos primum viderent, suumque de iis iudicium Romam perscriberent, ut veritas argumentis solidis elucidaretur, abstinereetur diſſectis, ac praecipue ab omni rerum publicarum inconsulta tractatione, qua Regum magnatorumque animis exacerbatis religio detrimentum pateretur.' Then, after referring to Persons's 'Three Conversions' with the reply to Fox's 'Books of Martyrs' (though this, by the way, was not among the books published at the new press), he concludes, 'Nullus fere abiit annus quo vel ab ipso conscriptus vel ab aliis de ipsius sententia liber aliquis non prodierit, magno catholicorum emolumento, heterodoxorum confusione et dolore.'

any quite conclusive contemporary record.¹ Internal evidence, however, as we shall see, puts it beyond doubt that the press was in full activity in 1608 and had produced its first book in 1607; which also perfectly agrees with what has been already recorded about Francis Bellet's departure.

The exact position of the 'print-house' is known to us from an old view of the College published about 1685.² It is shown there as a small three-

¹ An entry in the Annual Letters for St. Omers College, 1608, just falls short of conclusiveness through my not having been able to consult the original in the Brussels Archives. I can only quote from an imperfect transcript at Stonyhurst. This tells us how at Martinmas in that year the college was visited by the Bishop of the diocese. After dinner his Lordship insisted on being shown all round the premises ('omnia fere loca nostra videre voluit'). He highly approved of the site for the new church [this was between the college and the 'print-house'], 'sed prae omnibus dormiunculam quamdam habentem in se . . . cum omnibus aliis rebus ad illud spectantibus, quam nusquam ad illum finem accommodavimus, certe admirabatur.' The copyist has been unable to decipher the very words that most mattered! But, circumstances and context considered, surely the 'dormiuncula' (which, of course, should be 'domuncula') in question cannot be anything but our 'print-house,' and the missing words must be 'prelum typographicum' or the like. 'Nusquam' is probably an error for 'nuper.' Thus amended the passage will translate: 'But what he admired above all was a small house containing a printing-press with all its appliances, which (house) we have lately fitted up for this purpose.'

P.S.—A letter received after this paper had gone to press from a friend in Brussels, who has kindly consulted the original manuscript for me, confirms all the above conjectures:—'*domunculam . . . habentem in se prelum . . . quam nuper. . .*' Moreover, *pulcherrime* should be supplied after *certe*;—'which we have lately fitted up, and that right nobly. . .'. That the adverb was justified, results prove. The reference to the manuscript is 'Archives du Royaume, Jesuitiques, Prov. Gallo-Belge, no. 32.'

² Reproduced in F. Gerard's 'Stonyhurst,' and (better) in 'Stonyhurst Magazine,' April, 1916 (vol. xij, p. 1535).

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storeyed house to the west of the college and church, fronting the Rue S. Bertin with one of those picturesque stepped gables which so often adorn the old houses of continental towns. The site would have been near where now stands the great gate of the Sous-Préfecture.

IV. JOHN WILSON, PRIEST.

JOHN WILSON, the director of the new press, deserves fuller treatment than he has hitherto received at the hands of the makers of dictionaries. He was born in Staffordshire about the year 1575; his parents being John and Alice Wilson, and the mother's maiden name Russell. He was a convert and in November, 1603, was admitted as a student for the priesthood at the English College, Rome, being then 27 years of age. At Rome, as we have seen, he had been amanuensis or secretary to Father Persons, the Rector. Ordained priest in 1605 he started for the English mission, but cannot have seen much of it before being recalled to begin the work of his life in charge of the St. Omers College press.

There, though not a member of the society, he seems to have lived with the college community and to have taken a lively interest in the work of the place; to which indeed, being a man of some means, he was able to render valuable assistance. It was he who in the year 1621 added a new aisle to the college church, enlarged the sacristy, furnished the boys' sodality chapel, and enclosed

and levelled a garden for the Fathers' recreations.¹ It was he, too, who, a few years later, purchased for the college the 'villa' house at Blandyke, where the boys spent their weekly holiday in summer, while the interest he took in their studies is revealed to us in an exceedingly interesting document, which, having survived time and fire, confiscation and revolution, has somehow found its way to the British Museum.² Here he is the 'magnus Maecenas,' the 'benevolus semper beneficusque Maecenas,' and lastly, in 1645, the 'antiquus Maecenas,' to whose 'certissima liberalitas nullisque temporum exantlata injuriis munificentia' the boys were indebted for their annual prizes. After this last entry his name disappears. But in 1645 he was an old man of seventy, and probably died soon after.

Wilson's own contributions to literature do not

¹ See the 'Annual Letters,' St. Omers College, 1621, in Foley's 'Records,' vol. vij, p. 1158. The passage begins: 'R. D. Joannes Wilson, de quo saepius superioribus annis'; but unfortunately the Letters for several years are missing, and there is no mention of Wilson in those that survive. The 1614 letter (Foley, p. 1156) is signed 'Io. Wilson' and was presumably written by him.

² Add. MS. 9354. The title on the cover, which bears front and back the college stamp, is: 'Registrum Audomarensis Anglorum Gymnasii.' The title-page, written in bold Roman letters, runs: 'Aureus hic liber, Ingeniorum stimulus, industriae merces, doctorum custos nominum, a Rdo. Dno. Ioanne Wilsono, Audomarensis Anglorum Gymnasii magno Maecenate, annuae suae praemiorum distributioni adjunctus est; quo veluti traduce memoria propagetur eorum omnium qui doctrina caeteris antecellunt. Anno 1622.' The book contains the record of the 'six first' of each class in the monthly 'compositions' from 1622 to 1670, with a few gaps. It also contains sundry notes which throw very interesting sidelights on the life of an English Catholic school beyond the seas in penal times.

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seem to have been extensive. He was the author of the valuable 'English Martyrologe,' one of the books published in the first year of the new press. Besides this he translated several small books of controversy or religion, and his initials are attached to the dedications of many of his publications. But his chief title to fame will always be that for some forty years he presided over the St. Omers College Press and put forth several hundred volumes of orthodoxy for the edification of his fellow-countrymen.

V. ENEMIES.

OR, in some cases, for their indignation. For of course the press soon became famous. The list of books which follows this article, incomplete as it is, shows how large a share it took in the religious controversies of James I's reign; and, in spite of the silence of their title-pages, those sturdy, well-printed quartos—for Wilson's best printing was greatly superior to that of most other continental printers of English books; indeed, it will bear comparison with much of the very best contemporary London printing—could not long remain unrecognised.¹

In 1626 a fierce attack was made on Wilson

¹ In 1622 Henry Taylor, printer at Douay, writes to the Rector, warning him against a spy, Richard Floyd, who had lately furnished the king's agent, Turnbull, with 'un catalogue de tous les livres catholiques qui sont imprimés en anglais a S. Omer ces 6 années passées . . . et lui a écrit qu'au collège des Anglais ils ont un livre de *corona regia* pour imprimer en anglais mais dessous un autre titre "*un fléau pour un Ecossais*." De Lauwereyns, l.c. p. 237.

and his press by Lewis Owen. Owen was a man who, having lived for some time among the Jesuits at Valladolid 'as a curious observer,' says Anthony Wood, returned to put his observations at the disposal of the English Government. 'In the English College at Saint Omer,' he says,¹ 'the Jesuites have a printing Presse, to print such Popish Books and Seditious (yea, blasphemous) Pamphlets as are written by any English Jesuite. I may very well call some of them blasphemous Pamphlets, and among all the rest, that little Pamphlet, intituled "Prurit-Anus," which was written and twice printed in that College: but the copies for the most part taken, and at two severall times burned at Pauls-Cross after sermon time, about fourteene yeares agoe. The Authors, who were *Wilson* and the rest of the Jesuites there, (because it was stuffed with such horrible blasphemies) were ashamed to subscribe their own names thereunto, but borrowed a fained name of one *Horatio Dolobella* a *Neapolitan*.' Then after comparing the author to 'Julian the Apostata or Lucian the Atheist'—to the advantage of course of the latter—he continues:

Their Presse is worth unto them more than foure hundred pounds yearly. For they themselves are the Authors, Correctors, Composers, and Pressemen; in so much that it doth cost them nothing but Paper and Inke, and these bookes they doe sell at an unreasonable rate: for they are not ashamed to sell a booke that containes not a quire of Paper, for five or sixe shillings; and to that purpose they have their Factors, and Brokers in

¹ 'Running Register,' London, 1626, p. 14.

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London and all parts of *England*, to disperse and sell these Bookes and Pamphlets, and to transport the money unto them to Saint *Omer*.

Now I do not propose to enter into this last charge of extortionate prices, a cry which Owen has caught up from his friend John Gee:¹ they both knew perfectly well what difficulties and perils attended the sale of Catholic books in England; but I cannot leave unnoticed the case of the 'blasphemous Pamphlet' 'Prurit-anus.'

After much fruitless search, I discovered a copy of this book.² It is a satire on the Puritan abuse of Scripture. It is not pleasant reading, and I have no wish to defend its author or authors, whoever they were—though perhaps I would not be quite as emphatic as Owen in their condemnation. I am convinced, too, that the book really was printed at St. Omers. But my point is, *it was certainly not printed at the English College Press*. And further, if it was not printed there, it was certainly not the work of 'Wilson and the rest of the Jesuites there'; for it is inconceivable that, having a private press of their own, as they had in 1609, they would

¹ 'Foot out of the Snare,' 1624, p. 21, etc.

² The full title is: 'Prurit-anus, vel Nec Omne, nec ex omni. Sive Apologia pro Puritanis & Novatoribus universis. In qua et mores et opiniones Novorum Hominum nostri temporis auctoritate Scripturae affirmantur et infirmantur. Ad Reformatos huius saeculi Fratres, Germanos, Gallos & Britannos. Addita est etiam, per appendicem, similis Apologia pro Libro Ser. Iacobi Regis Magnae Britanniae nuperrime edito & inscripto Praefatio Monitoria ad omnes Monarchas & Principes Christianos etc. Per Horatium Dolobellam Neapolitanum.—Si male, nil peius; si bene, nil melius.—Lutetiae Britannorum, Apud Isacum Iacobi, M.DC.IX.—4°, pp. 40 + Appendix 4 pp.'

have sent a book like this to be printed by an outsider. That it was not printed at the College Press will, I think, be evident to anyone who carefully examines its typography. At the end of this article I will enumerate and describe the characteristic features which distinguish the English College books from those printed at St. Omers before (and some few after) 1608, which I believe to have been the work of Francis Bellet. Suffice it to remark here that the typography of 'Pruritanus' attaches it unmistakably to the latter group.

VI. SOME OTHER PRINTERS.

It would have been interesting to trace the vicissitudes of the press during the period under consideration, and to see how closely they reflect the political events of those eventful years; but this paper is already too long.

For the same reason I omit here all mention of another St. Omers press which was busy with English books during these years—that of Charles Boscard (1610-19) and his widow (1619-52), 'at the signe of the Name of Jesus.' He came from Douay and occupied, it would seem, the premises vacated by Bellet. Most of the 'St. Omers' books printed 'for' or 'by' John Heigham, were, I think, from this press. Two only will be found in the following list, under dates 1623 and 1625, as having been apparently printed at the College Press.

The list also includes two books bearing the impress of George Seutin (1631). Seutin was

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one of Wilson's printers who had obtained a licence to print under his own name. He uses the College type and it is not quite clear what were his relations with the College Press.

Lastly, two small books are added, which appear to have been printed at the College Press in the years 1641 and 1642. They are the only two I could discover for those years. From 1642 till long after the Revolution the press was silent.

In the next number of 'THE LIBRARY' I propose to complete this article with some notes on the typographical characteristics of the College Press, with a list of such of its books as I have personally identified.

C. A. NEWDIGATE, S.J.

REVIEW.

Cambridge Stationers, Printers, Bookbinders, etc. By the Rev. H. P. Stokes. Cambridge, Bowes and Bowes, 1919, p. 36.

THIS lecture was delivered by Dr. Stokes in April, 1917, on the occasion of the gift of a representative collection of books by successive University Printers, and also of Cambridge Guides, to the Free Public Library at Cambridge, by Mr. Robert Bowes, who has since passed away, full of years and honourable esteem. The books illustrating the output of the University presses begin with the 'Harmonia Confessionum Fidei,' printed by Thomas Thomas in 1586, and include one or more specimens of the work of nearly all the University printers who were more than mere sleeping partners. Dr. Stokes describes some of the more interesting specimens and rapidly passes in review the entire history of Cambridge printing. Much has been written about the earlier section of this, as also of the functions of the University Stationers before printing was invented. Dr. Stokes, who approaches the subject from a rather wider standpoint than most of the historians of Cambridge printing, adds some interesting touches by giving examples of the other posts and academical appointments held by

the printers and also mentioning some of the benefactions which the Town or University owed to their liberality. He also gives a map of a section of Cambridge to show the streets in which most of them lived. Three appendices give lists (1) of the University Printers, distinguishing those who produced books from the merely titular ones, (2) of the more important stationers in chronological order with rough indications of the dates at which they carried on their businesses, and (3) of Cambridge guides. Altogether the thin pamphlet is very happily varied in its topics and forms a worthy commemoration of a generous gift.

A. W. P.